

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): An instrument for inducing a cytokine, which comprises hemolytic streptococcus and/or a hemolytic streptococcus-origin component which induces a cytokine, a water-insoluble carrier having an effect for enhancing induction of a cytokine, and a container comprising the hemolytic streptococcus and/or the hemolytic streptococcus-origin component and the water-insoluble carrier.

2. - 3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to ~~any one~~ of claims 1-~~to~~3, wherein the hemolytic streptococcus and/or the hemolytic streptococcus-origin component have been fixed on the water-insoluble carrier.

5. (currently amended): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to ~~any one~~ of claims 1-~~to~~3, wherein the water-insoluble carrier comprises a polymer material.

6. (original): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 5, wherein the polymer material is a porous polymer material.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT &

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/555,069

Atty. Docket No.: Q91145

7. (currently amended): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 5-~~or~~6, wherein the polymer material comprises at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a polystyrene-based polymer material, a polyacrylic ester-based polymer material, a polypropylene-based polymer material and a polyvinyl chloride-based polymer material.

8. (currently amended): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to ~~any one~~ of claims 1-~~to~~4, wherein the water-insoluble carrier comprises a carbon material.

9. (original): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 8, wherein the carbon material is an active carbon.

10. (original): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 9, wherein the active carbon has a diameter of more than 100 μm and not more than 10000 μm .

11. (currently amended): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 9-~~or~~10, wherein the active carbon is an active carbon obtained from at least one kind of raw material selected from the group consisting of a petroleum pitch, a phenolic resin, a coal and a coconut husk.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT &

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/555,069

Atty. Docket No.: Q91145

12. (currently amended): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to ~~any one~~ of claims 1 to 11, which is used for the induction of a cytokine production in a cell which can produce a cytokine.

13. (original): The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 12, wherein the cell which can produce a cytokine is a cell derived from blood or a blood constituent.

14. (original): A method for inducing a cytokine, which comprises inducing a cytokine using the instrument for inducing a cytokine according to any one of claims 1 to 13.